

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-25 (cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A packaging container comprising:

a container body having an inverted cone shape, said container body including a side wall, a first end defined by a tapered end portion having a rounded distal end ~~such that said container body cannot be supported in an upright position by said rounded distal end when said rounded distal end is placed on a support surface, and~~ and an axis passing through said rounded distal end and said open end;

a flange at said open end, said flange including a first portion extending away from said open end in a direction toward said axis, and also including a second portion extending in a generally radial direction of said container body away from said first portion;

at least one protrusion formed on an outer surface of said side wall of said container body;
and

a frustum-shaped exterior shell having a small-diameter opening at one end and a large-diameter opening at an opposite end such that

(i) said frustum-shaped exterior shell is to be removably fitted onto said container body by passing said tapered end portion of said container body through said large-diameter opening and then through said small-diameter opening until said at least one protrusion removably supports said frustum-shaped exterior shell on said container body, and

(ii) said frustum-shaped exterior shell is to support said container body on the support surface in an upright position by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one protrusion is engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface.

27. (Currently Amended) The packaging container according to claim 26, further comprising a lid for hermetically sealing said container body, said lid including a first portion that is to be received

within said first portion of said flange, and also including a second portion that is to be received on said second portion of said flange.

28. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 27, wherein said frustum-shaped exterior shell has an axial length such that when said frustum-shaped exterior shell supports said container body by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one protrusion is engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface, said rounded distal end of said container body is spaced from the support surface.

29. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 27, wherein said at least one protrusion is on a portion of said side wall of said container body that is between an axial central portion of said container body and said first end.

30. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 27, wherein said at least one protrusion comprises a continuous ring in a plane that is perpendicular to an axis of said container body.

31. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 27, wherein said at least one protrusion comprises plural protrusions in a plane that is perpendicular to an axis of said container body.

32. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 26, wherein said frustum-shaped exterior shell has an axial length such that when said frustum-shaped exterior shell supports said container body by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one

protrusion is engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface, said rounded distal end of said container body is spaced from the support surface.

33. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 26, wherein said at least one protrusion is on a portion of said side wall of said container body that is between an axial central portion of said container body and said first end.

34. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 26, wherein said at least one protrusion comprises a continuous ring in a plane that is perpendicular to an axis of said container body.

35. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 26, wherein said at least one protrusion comprises plural protrusions in a plane that is perpendicular to an axis of said container body.

36. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 35, wherein said frustum-shaped exterior shell has an axial length such that when said frustum-shaped exterior shell supports said container body by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one protrusion is engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface, said rounded distal end of said container body is spaced from the support surface.

37. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 35, wherein said plural protrusions are on a portion of said side wall of said container body that is between an axial central portion of said container body and said first end.

38. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 34, wherein said frustum-shaped exterior shell has an axial length such that when said frustum-shaped exterior shell supports said container body by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one protrusion is engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface, said rounded distal end of said container body is spaced from the support surface.

39. (Previously Presented) The packaging container according to claim 34, wherein said continuous ring is on a portion of said side wall of said container body that is between an axial central portion of said container body and said first end.

40. (New) The packaging container according to claim 27, wherein said flange further includes a third portion extending outwardly away from said second portion of said flange, such that when said second portion of said lid is on said second portion of said flange said third portion of said flange surrounds said second portion of said lid.

41. (New) The packaging container according to claim 26, wherein said flange further includes a third portion extending outwardly away from said second portion.

42. (New) The packaging container according to claim 41, further comprising grooves in said side wall, said grooves tapering in a direction from said open end toward said rounded distal end.

43. (New) The packaging container according to claim 42, wherein said frustum-shaped exterior shell has an axial length such that when said frustum-shaped exterior shell supports said container body by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one protrusion is

engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface, said rounded distal end of said container body is spaced from the support surface.

44. (New) The packaging container according to claim 41, wherein said frustum-shaped exterior shell has an axial length such that when said frustum-shaped exterior shell supports said container body by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one protrusion is engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface, said rounded distal end of said container body is spaced from the support surface.

45. (New) The packaging container according to claim 40, wherein said frustum-shaped exterior shell has an axial length such that when said frustum-shaped exterior shell supports said container body by removing said frustum-shaped exterior shell from said container body, inverting said frustum-shaped exterior shell, inserting said tapered end portion of said container body into said small-diameter opening of said frustum-shaped exterior shell until said at least one protrusion is engaged by said one end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell, and placing said opposite end of said frustum-shaped exterior shell on the support surface, said rounded distal end of said container body is spaced from the support surface.